

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FV) Eligibility Information

Eligible Programs

Programs must be operated by public or nonprofit agency, or a combination of such agencies. FV funds are granted to programs to increase public awareness about domestic violence and its impact on families and support programs for the prevention of family violence, provide immediate shelter and related assistance to victims of family violence and their dependents, and provide training and technical assistance to family violence personnel in states, local public agencies (including law enforcement agencies, courts, social service agencies, and health care professionals), and non-profit private organizations. These programs include, but are not limited to, domestic abuse programs, domestic abuse shelters, and other community-based victim coalitions.

Program Match Requirements

Programs are required to provide 35% match for the first year of funding and 20% match for the second and subsequent years of funding from non-federal sources. The match percentage may be cash or in-kind. All funds designated as match are restricted to the same uses as the FV funds and must be expended within the contract period.

FV programs must maintain records that clearly show the source, the amount, and the period during which the match was allocated. The basis for determining the value of personal services, materials, equipment, and space must be documented. Volunteer services must also be documented.

Contract Period

Contracts will be issued annually for the contract period. Each contract is for a 12-month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Each funded program must be in compliance with state and federal rules and in good standing with the Victim Services Support Program (VSS) requirements and procedures to receive funding and continued funding.

Programs will not be allowed to carry over or extend prior awards into the next fiscal year. Any prior award amounts remaining un-obligated as of June 30 will revert to the VSS Program. The VSS Program Administrator can make exceptions to this as needed.

Programs are funded on a reimbursement basis and are subject to the availability of federal funds. All funded programs must complete either monthly or quarterly claim vouchers requesting reimbursement, and program performance reports. Programs will be required to receive reimbursement via electronic funds transfer (EFT).

Non-Supplanting Requirements

FV funds will be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local public funds expended to provide services and activities that promote the purposes of the Act.

Confidential Location

Federal guidelines require that the address or location of the shelter will not be made public except with written authorization of the person(s) responsible for operation of the shelter.

Family Violence and Prevention Act Definitions:

The following definitions are from the Family Violence and Prevention Act, P.L. 98-457, 42 USC 10401 sec. 309, as amended in 1992 by P.L. 102-295, and as amended in 1994 by P.L. 103-322.

Family Violence: Any act or threatened act of violence, including any forceful detention of an individual, which (a) results or threatens to result in physical injury and (b) is committed by a person against another individual (including an elderly person) to whom such person is or was related by blood or marriage or otherwise legally related, or with whom such person is or was lawfully residing.

Shelter: The provision of temporary refuge and related assistance in compliance with applicable state law and regulations governing the provision on a regular basis, which includes shelter, safe homes, meals, and related assistance to victims of family violence and their dependents.

Related Assistance: The provision of direct assistance to victims of family violence and their dependents for the purpose of preventing further violence, helping such victims to gain access to civil and criminal court and other community services, facilitating the efforts of such victims to make decisions concerning their lives in the interest of safety, and assisting such victims in healing from effects of the violence. As outlined in the Federal Registry related assistance includes:

- ❖ Outreach and prevention, services for victims and their children, such as employment, training, parenting and other educational services for victims and their children, preventive health services within domestic violence programs (including nutrition, disease prevention, exercise and prevention of substance abuse), domestic violence prevention programs for school age children, and family violence public awareness campaigns.
- ❖ Counseling with respect to family violence, counseling or other supportive services by peers individually or in groups, and referral to community social services.
- ❖ Transportation, technical assistance with respect to obtaining financial assistance under Federal and State programs, and referrals for appropriate health care services (including alcohol and drug abuse treatment), but does not include reimbursement for any health-care services.
- ❖ Legal advocacy to provide victims with information and assistance through civil and criminal courts, and legal assistance.
- ❖ Children's counseling and support services and child services for children who are victims of family violence or the dependents of such victims.

Meeting eligibility requirements does not guarantee your agency will be awarded FV funds. For more information about the funding cycle please contact Victim Services Support Program (VSS) Administrator Donna Phillips at 1-800-373-5044.

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